Message from the Director

Dear Spartan,

As will be apparent as you read this e-newsletter, the fall semester has witnessed a number of events highlighting the excellence of the School during this year celebrating 75 years of criminal justice at Michigan State University. This has included sharing meals with alumni during travels around the country as well as a very nice MSU reception held at the Virginia home of Paul Sparks '76. During all of these events I have been continually impressed with the professional achievements and the integrity and friendliness of our School’s alums.  

>>More

Banner Photo: Graduate Fall Tailgate

Spotlight

75th Celebration

Please mark your calendar to attend the "Spring Symposium" April 15, 2011 at the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, just minutes from the MSU campus. We also invite you to become a member of our Founder's Circle by pledging to the 75th Anniversary Enrichment Fund. You can make a secure pledge on line or for more information contact Sarah Blom.  Don't forget to keep in touch with our 75th Anniversary calendar of events to stay up to date on what's happening in your area or here at MSU.

>>Index

Homecoming
If you have a Class Note to share, please send them to Candy Curtis.

Moved or changed your e-mail address? Let us know by updating online.

Join MSUAA today online and be sure to check the School of Criminal Justice so we can continue to provide services to our many alumni!

News Posts

Jesenia Pizarro was quoted in two Flint Journal articles published on Sept. 29th. The articles were entitled: “Homicide expert said Flint’s homicide rate nearly four times higher than national rate” and “‘A killing field’ – 50th Flint homicide sparks more fear, pleas for help”.

Christopher Smith presented two colloquiums for Constitutional Day this fall at Central Michigan University. The colloquiums were Constitutional Rights: Symbols and Substance and From ‘Republican Antitrust Lawyer’ to ‘Liberal Leader on the Supreme Court’: Explaining the Judicial Decisions of Justice John Paul Stevens.

David Foran is teaming up with Sparrow Health Systems to provide first-of-its kind training for medical examiners. This training is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Justice and could become a national model.

Jeremy Wilson was interviewed by the Associated Press about the effects of police staffing cuts on public safety. This interview was featured on WPVI-TV (ABC affiliate in Philadelphia) and APP.com (New Jersey).

April Zeoli, Child Custody Experiences Study II, Building Interdisciplinary Careers in Women’s Health Research.

John Hudzik participated in a panel debate at the opening session of the European Association for International Education’s annual conference

John Spink will be the featured speaker at the MSU University Club’s “Club Colloquy Lunch Program” on November 16th. His talk is entitled ‘Product Counterfeiting Costs Billions and ‘Clearly is Not a Victimless Crime’.

Quick Links

- A-CAPPP
- Alpha Phi Sigma
- CJAA
- Calendar of Events
- Career Fair
- Class Notes
- College of Social Science
- Faculty Publications
- Forensic Science Alum Update
- Giving to the School
- Home Page
- International Journal
- MSU Today
- Online Store

Wall of Fame

Many of our criminal justice alumni and faculty go on to extraordinary accomplishment. This year’s award winners were alum John Angell, Michael Bouchard, Thomas Brennan, Steven Edwards, Charles Soltys, and the late Robert Trojanowicz, past Director and faculty member. To learn more about these outstanding achievers or to nominate for 2011, visit the Wall of Fame. Meet our Distinguished Alumni honorees!
Class Notes

Steve Edwards, '85, Bill Nash, '72, and Bruce "Coach" Sokolove, '70, teamed up for the September 2 - 5 2010 DALMAC West route which took them 322 miles from the MSU campus to Mackinaw City. They flashed big smiles after the last lunch on the tour at the infamous Legs Inn in Cross Village, MI overlooking Lake Michigan and a mere 28 miles to the finish along the stunningly scenic North Shore Drive. Steve is an accomplished long-tour cyclist having completed many RAGBRAI tours across Iowa and his first but not last DLMAC.

Eric Letzgus, '02 recently graduated from the Naval War College and is assigned to the National Air Security Operations supporting the Customs and Border Protection Unmanned Aircraft System's Program. Eric tells us that it is an emerging field in domestic law enforcement and counter-terrorism.

R. Barri Flowers, '80, a 2006 Wall of Fame inductee has had a busy year writing criminology books. His publications include Street Kids: The Lives of Runaway and Throwaway Teens (McFarland, 2010) and upcoming work, Prostitution in the Digital Age: Selling Sex from the Street to the Suite (Praeger, April 2011). He also served as an Editorial Board Member for publisher ABC-CLIO. In addition to his criminology works, Barri also writes mystery, mainstream, and romance fiction as Devon Vaughn Archer, including The Secrets of Paradise Bay, (Urban Books, 2010), and upcoming titles, Pleasure in Hawaii (Kimani, June 2011) and The Hitman’s Woman (Urban Books, September 2011).
Bill Nash, '72 along with his wife Pat and alum coordinator Candy Curtis and her husband Mike were on hand to support the Michigan State Mens Basketball team in Maui.

Our Students

Criminal Justice senior Kevin Fleury was the keynote speaker at our Wall of Fame ceremony and was one of ten students selected to be on the 2010-2011 Homecoming Court based on ability to exemplify qualities of leadership, spirit, integrity and achievement through contributions and involvement at MSU. Homecoming representatives serve as exceptional role models and Spartan Ambassadors during the summer and fall of 2010 and the spring of 2011.

Justin Reese checked in as he serves his country in Afghanistan and as a student in the Law Enforcement Intelligence and Analysis (LEIA) Master of Science program. Justin enjoys the student group discussions and reading materials for the weekly lessons. He has taken what he learns from his sessions and implemented them on the ground in Afghanistan.

The School’s doctoral program in criminal justice emphasizes the problems of crime, crime control and justice administration, while simultaneously developing a strong foundation in social science theory and research methods. It prepares our enrolled students for careers in college and university teaching and research, as well as advanced public-policy positions.

Jason Rydberg, doctoral student, along with other researchers examined thousands of police encounters in Indianapolis and St. Petersburg, Fla., and found that college educated officers are 12 percent less likely to use force of any kind than officers whose schooling stopped with a high school diploma. This research was featured on KOB Channel 4, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Judicial Administration

The Michigan State University Judicial Administration Program recognized several student graduates from the noncredit and graduate certificate programs during the spring, summer, and fall of 2010. Noncredit certificate program graduates were honored at recent meetings including the Georgia Council of Court Administrator’s 2010 Spring Conference, the Michigan Court Manager’s 2010 Annual Conference, the Federal Court Clerks Association’s 2010 Annual Conference, the National Association for Court Management’s 2010 Annual Conference, the Mid-Atlantic Association for Court Management 2010 Annual Conference, and the North Carolina Conference of Court Administrator’s 2010 Fall Conference.

Memoriam
Ronald Pincomb Don Johnson, passed away on September 21, 2010 after a long battle with cancer. Don earned his BS, ’64 and MS, ’94. He served three years of active duty in the Army, including one year in Korea. Don retired as Deputy Chief of Detectives from the Ann Arbor Police Department. After his retirement he and his wife Marlene moved to Colorado Springs, where he volunteered as an investigator helping the Colorado Springs Police Department with their documents/fraud case loads. This past August, Colorado Springs Police Chief and 2009 Wall of Fame inductee Rick Myers, presented Don with the department's Volunteer Service Award for his many years of assistance as a volunteer investigator.

Left to Right Don Johnson and Rick Myers

Frank Belecky, ’56, of Pleasanton, CA passed away at his home on October 23, 2010. Frank served in the United States Air Force and the Wyoming Air National Guard and earned a B.A. in Police Administration. After graduation, he was employed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), retiring in 1986.

Index

Alumni Board

Letter from the President

As I take over the Presidents Chair, we all send kudos to Bruce "Coach Sok" Sokolove for a job extremely well done as President of our School of Criminal Justice Alumni Association! You are a tough act to follow brother! Briefly, some of the initiatives that the Board continues to work on include, the upcoming 75th Anniversary of the founding of the School of Police Administration/Criminal Justice; funding sources for the MSU Public Safety Memorial on the east side of the Alumni Chapel; establishing a viable cross enrollment agreement with the Mid-Michigan Police Academy at Lansing Community College for our students that desire to go into law enforcement; and last, but certainly not least, working collaboratively with the search committee to identify a new Director of the School. More information to follow as each of these projects comes to fruition. More
Board Honors Retiring President

Our Alumni Association Board honored retiring President Bruce "Coach" Sokolove for his outstanding dedication and leadership to MSU and the School of Criminal Justice. Coach has been a member of the School's Alumni Association Board for 6 years serving in the capacity of President for 2 of those 6 years.

Left to Right, Mike Oltersdorf and Bruce "Coach" Sokolove

Faculty & Staff

Announcements

Christopher E. Smith was invited to the U.S. Supreme Court in July 2010 to interview recently-retired Justice John Paul Stevens as part of Dr. Smith’s work on a book concerning the Justice’s impact on criminal justice. It was Dr. Smith’s second invitation to visit with Justice Stevens at the Supreme Court. Two articles on Justice Stevens that will serve as chapters for the book have been accepted for publication in 2010. "Justice John Paul Stevens: Staunch Defender of Miranda Rights" will be published in DePaul Law Review and "Justice John Paul Stevens and Capital Punishment" will be published in Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law. As part of this long-term project, Dr. Smith has previously published "Justice John Paul Stevens and Prisoners' Rights" in Temple Poltical and Civil Rights Law Review (2007) and "The Roles of Justice John Paul Stevens in Criminal Justice Cases" in Suffolk University Law Review (2005).


Recent Publications
Our faculty remains thoroughly engaged in the crucial issues facing state and local communities through community policing, strategic problem solving, crime analysis, evaluation research and basic research on a variety of criminal justice issues. Please feel free to browse our recent faculty publications.

>>Index